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Honors Oracle

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# Honors Oracle, February 2019

Marshall University Honors College

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# Honors Oracle

Marshall University's Honors College newsletter • Feb. 2019

## Provost aims to become more involved with Honors program

By HANNA PENNINGTON

As Marshall University's provost and senior vice president for academic affairs, Jaime Taylor settles into his second semester in the position, and he said he hopes to become more involved with the Honors College in months to come.

Taylor formerly worked in higher education at Austin Peay State University and said he was very involved with the Presidential Emerging Leaders Program which features many similarities to that of Marshall's Society of Yeager Scholars program.

"I was very active in using that as a recruitment tool for very talented students," Taylor said. "When I became dean of science and math where I was at, there were a couple of students I was able to attract that had an acceptance into Harvard and the University of Chicago. I said, 'I think you'd be better served coming to Austin Peay.'"

Taylor said he believes that the Honors College and Yeager Scholars program could be used in the same way.

"When you come to a school like that or like Marshall, you get more opportunities that don't exist when you go to a bigger school," Taylor said. "It sounds odd, but if you come here when you're a freshman, we're going to find opportunities for you that you're not going to get elsewhere."

Taylor said students who come to Marshall and are in the Honors College will have a strong educational experience because of the dedicated faculty and staff.

"In the Honors program, there is an individual designated to help find external opportunities like research experience for undergraduates or scholarships," Taylor said. "If you come to Marshall



PHOTOS COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

**Jaime Taylor was formerly involved in the Presidential Emerging Leaders Program, similar to the Yeager Scholars program, at Austin Peay University.**

you're going to have somebody work with you on those, whereas if you go to a bigger school you're just going to get lost."

Taylor said he would also like to see Marshall as a whole at the forefront of what happens when a student graduates, whether it be graduate school or having a job lined up when they leave the university.

"If somebody is going to come to Marshall, we want to do everything we can to help them graduate," Taylor said. "We're putting some things in place right now to help improve student success at Marshall."

Taylor said he believes further student success is something Marshall could be very outstanding at.

"I'm pretty excited to be here," Taylor said. "I feel like I came in at just the right time."

**KEEP UP WITH THE HONORS COLLEGE ON TWITTER!**



**@MarshallUHonors**

# Yeager Scholar presents at national conference

By MIRANDA SMITH

Faith Hensley is a member of the Society of Yeager Scholars class of 2020 and is studying applied mathematics, pure mathematics and Spanish.

Last month, Hensley, a junior, attended the 2019 Joint Mathematics Meetings in Baltimore, Maryland. JMM is an annual mathematics conference during which students and mathematicians from all over the world meet to present ideas and projects they have been working on.

Hensley presented in the Undergraduate Student Poster Session during this year's conference, displaying research she completed last semester under the guidance of her mentor Bonita Lawrence, a professor of mathematics. Hensley was able to complete the project after receiving an Undergraduate Research and Creative Discovery grant from the Marshall University Research Corporation.

Hensley's research was titled "Translating Calculus in the Physical World."

It focused on the use of the differential analyzer in a classroom setting,

with hopes of helping students who learn better by touch or visuals gain a better understanding of the abstract mathematics involved in calculus, Hensley said.

"The differential analyzer is a mechanical computer that uses wheel and disc mechanisms to solve differential equations," Hensley said.

This year's JMM conference was one of the biggest in its history, with nearly 6,000 in attendance. Nearly 400 of those in attendance were students who presented in the same category as Hensley.

At the close of the conference, Hensley was awarded one of the outstanding poster awards for her presentation.

"I was so excited. Having the potential of the machine and my project recognized by so many established mathematicians and math educators was a great feeling," Hensley said.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE FAITH HENSLEY

Hensley presented in the Undergraduate Student Poster Session during the 2019 Joint Mathematics Meetings.

"It was also extremely rewarding to be able to work alongside Dr. Lawrence. I truly admire her so much. It was an even bigger accomplishment to have been able to make her proud – especially considering how much of her career she has dedicated to the differential analyzer."

Hensley said she plans to continue her research and work on this project and is excited to see what the future holds.



By JESTEN RICHARDSON

**Connection to the Honors College:** Yeager scholar (Joined in 2017)

**Class Level:** Sophomore  
**Major(s):** Art and English  
**Hometown:** Jupiter, Florida

**Passions:** Art, English, books, poetry, writing  
**A Word She Would Use to Describe Herself:** Creative

**Involvement on Campus:**

Society of Yeager Scholars, Student Advisory Board for Marshall University's Department of English, two pieces of art featured in Drinko Library's Don't Call Me Crazy: Resiliency Through Art exhibition in Florida

see HONOR on pg. 5



JESTEN RICHARDSON

Jurskis reading "In Cold Blood" at Cicada Books for a Yeager seminar.



# Students encouraged to take advantage of study abroad opportunities

By ABI DROPIK

The Marshall University Honors College periodically updates students about potential career building opportunities in order to help them gain experience in a field of interest to them.

One of these opportunities is the Fulbright Summer Institute, which was announced through email to students by Mallory Carpenter, a faculty member of the Honors College who is program manager of national scholarships and co-dean of the West Virginia Governor's Honors Academy.

This internship provides students of various desired career paths a chance to pursue experience in their

national and cultural experience they will acquire along the way, Carpenter said.

The Fulbright Summer Institute is a fully-funded program that is open to current freshmen and sophomores. There are nine different participating locations, all addressing different fields of interests, and students can find more information on the program at <http://www.fulbright.org.uk/going-to-the-uk/uk-summer-institutes/summer-institutes-available/>. The applications for this year were due Feb. 6, but students who are freshmen this year are still eligible next year to apply, given that this program is reoccurring annually.

"These opportunities are great for students to learn about the world outside of the United States," Carpenter said. "Regardless of what major they are, the application process is also incredibly helpful for students—it forces you to think about what you want to do and why and be able to express that confidently in writing. Additionally, because this particular opportunity is geared for students who have never traveled abroad before, it's giving them a unique all expenses paid opportunity to go outside of their comfort zone."

In the original email Carpenter sent to students, she stated the guidelines required in order to be eligible for the scholarship, which include a GPA of 3.7, having two years of undergraduate remaining post participation in the Institute and several others. She also listed some of the benefits for participating in the program in this email.

Carpenter said she would be happy to help any student in need of guidance with this process and that she works with students "on all parts of the fellowships process, from identifying opportunities that are good fits for them through drafting and revising essays, general questions, technical issues, etc." She said she also helps with mock interviews, if the student proceeds to an interview stage.

Carpenter's contact information is [mallory.carpenter@marshall.edu](mailto:mallory.carpenter@marshall.edu), which is the best way to reach her for more information on this specific academic opportunity or any other internships students may be interested in and need help or advice during the application process of. She has an office in the Honors College in Old Main and is willing to set up a meeting time with any student seeking an appointment for aid in any of these processes.

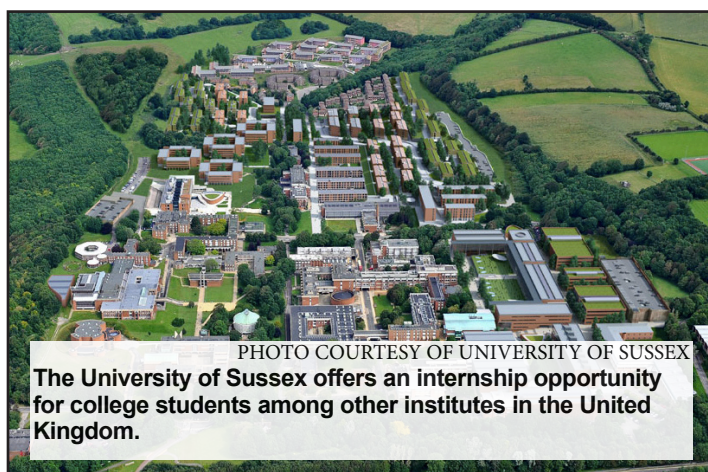


PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX  
**The University of Sussex offers an internship opportunity for college students among other institutes in the United Kingdom.**

chosen field, while also having the opportunity to study abroad in the United Kingdom over the summer of 2019 through a United States cultural program.

These internship opportunities occur all over the United Kingdom at internationally prestigious universities, such as the University of Manchester, the University of Sussex and several others.

Marshall has previously had two students selected to participate in this program, and, according to Carpenter, they both extremely enjoyed their time studying abroad. Carpenter is passionate about this program and encourages students to apply for it in order to have the chance to experience the opportunities it holds.

By participating in one of these programs, students will interact with other students from the United States who are also in the program. Students are given the opportunity to explore different parts of the United Kingdom and to benefit from the coursework that is provided, along with the inter-

# Honors College offers array of benefits, resources

By BRITNEY COX

Though navigating through college can be a challenging experience and can be frustrating when some students may feel like there is nothing to help them, members of the Honors College have several resources available to them.

One of the opportunities available to Honors College students is the ability to live in one of the Honors Living Learning Communities. The Honors College and the Department of Housing and Residence Life have partnered to provide this to students.

Some benefits of living in these communities are sharing experiences with other students who are dedicated to their studies, having conversations with like-minded people and studying for similar courses, some Honors College students said. To live in Honors Living Learning Communities, students may choose the option while signing up for housing. The Honors Living Learning Communities are located on the fourth floor of Freshman North and in Willis Hall in the Marshall Commons.

There are also two opportunities to be directly involved in the Honors College. Students can become involved with the Honors



BRITNEY COX

The Honors Living Learning Community in Willis Hall is located in the Marshall Commons.

College Steering Committee, an extension of the Honors College Student Association. Being on this committee, students can plan for events, while also earning credit for the Honors College curriculum. Students may also choose to participate as a writer for the Honors College newsletter, the Honors Oracle. This gives students the opportunity to write about things happening with the college. Students also earn credit for serving as a writer.

Another benefit for Honors College students is the possibility of smaller class sizes. While students are taking honors designated courses, they are exposed to these smaller classes.

"The benefit of smaller class sizes is making connections with your professors," said Brian Hoey, associate dean of the Honors College. "Your professors will be able to write you good letters that reflect who you were in the classroom. Making connections with your professors in a smaller class setting

gives students a leg up when applying for graduate school and jobs."

The Honors College also provides spaces for students to learn, study and engage with other students. Honors College students can use a computer lab with free printing. It is located in Old Main 230. A study lounge is available to students either looking for a quiet atmosphere or a place to meet up with friends. It is located in Old Main 350.

"I want students to be aware that these rooms are available to them," Hoey said. "We welcome students to come chat with us anytime they need to."

There are a plethora of opportunities and resources available to Honors College students. Additional resources mentioned on the website are merit-based scholarships, early course registration, extended library borrowing and special study abroad opportunities. More information can be found at the Marshall University Honors College website: <https://www.marshall.edu/honors/>.



## cont'd. HONOR from pg. 2

**Community Involvement:** Church, service programs with her church, art involvement at her church in Florida

**Awards:** Second Place First-Year Research Maier Award, Juror's Choice for her art

**Proudest Accomplishments:** Being a Yeager scholar, leaving Florida and starting a new adventure in West Virginia, being a safe person for people to talk to

**Hopes for the semester:** Keeping up a high GPA, making more art outside of class, getting some creative work published, doing well in her classes, keep on writing and making art

**Favorite Marshall Memories So Far:** Doing the Yeager Symposium, giving a speech on mental health and her art

**What she wants people to know about her art:** Not just trying to make something that is simply aesthetically pleasing but to say something with her art



PHOTO COURTESY OF LILY JURSKIS

Jurskis presenting her sophomore Yeager symposium video.

Know someone you'd like to nominate for 'Honorable Mention?' Contact [larch15@marshall.edu](mailto:larch15@marshall.edu)!



## The Honors Oracle Staff | Spring 2019

### Executive Editor | Amanda Larch

Amanda is a junior print journalism major from Hurricane, West Virginia. She is the current managing editor for the Parthenon and after graduating she would love to write for Rolling Stone Magazine.

### Assistant Editor | Jesten Richardson

Jesten is a junior from Huntington, West Virginia. She is an English and multimedia journalism double major. She hopes to either teach journalism and/or English on a secondary or collegiate level or become a reporter.

### Layout Editor | Hanna Pennington

Hanna is a senior online journalism major and history minor. She is the current Life! Editor for the Parthenon and an Honors College social media outreach contributor.

### Staff Writer | Abi Dropik

Abi is from Lititz, Pennsylvania and is a sophomore bio-chemistry major planning to continue on to graduate school. Her passions in life are science, sports, and art. She is a member of the Honors College and Women's Soccer team.

### Staff Writer | Miranda Smith

Miranda is a junior and currently majoring in literary studies, creative writing, and classics. She plans to get her PhD. in English and contribute to the rapidly growing field of ecofeminist theory, with hopes of one day becoming a professor.

### Staff Writer | Britney Cox

Britney is a sophomore double majoring in English and classics with minors in Greek and Latin. She plans to attend graduate school and eventually obtain a Ph.D in classics. She enjoys writing, reading, and learning languages in her free time.